

# COMPENSATORY TIME OFF FOR TRAVEL

NOAA Workforce Management Office 2005 updated 2007



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### Compensatory Time Off for Travel

- A new form of compensatory time off:
  - Earned by an employee for time spent in a travel status
  - Away from the employee's official duty station
  - When such time is not otherwise compensable. (Default provision)
- The travel must be officially authorized
  - for work purposes and
  - approved by an authorized agency official or otherwise authorized under established agency policies.
- Interim regulations
  - Effective January 28, 2005
- Final regulations
  - Effective May 17, 2007





### **Travel Status**

## Time in <u>travel status</u> includes:

#### Time spent traveling between

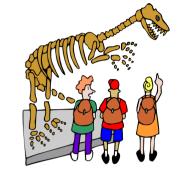
- the <u>official</u> and <u>temporary</u> duty stations
- two temporary duty stations; and
- the "<u>usual waiting time</u>" that precedes or interrupts such travel (e.g., arriving prior to the scheduled departure of an airplane, per DOC Policy:
  - 2 hours domestic
  - 4 hours international





### Travel Status (cont'd)

- "<u>Usual waiting time</u>" at a transportation terminal is creditable
  - at the exclusive <u>discretion of</u> the employing agency



An "<u>extended</u>" waiting period is <u>not</u> considered time in a travel status, i.e., an unusually long wait during which the employee is free to rest, sleep, or otherwise use the time for his or her own purposes.







### Commuting Time Outside of regular working hours

#### Travel is <u>creditable</u> travel time when it is:

- between an employee's home and a temporary duty station or transportation terminal outside the limits of his or her official duty station
- However, the agency must deduct the employee's normal home-to-work/workto-home commuting time from the creditable travel time.

#### Travel is creditable travel time when it is:

between a worksite and a transportation terminal

no commuting time offset applies

### Travel is <u>not</u> creditable travel time:

- to or from a transportation terminal within the limits of the employee's official duty station
- and is considered equivalent to commuting time







### "Compensable"

- Compensatory time-off for travel may be earned
  - only for time in a travel status that is <u>not</u> <u>otherwise</u> "compensable."
- Compensable periods of time means periods of time that are creditable as hours of work for the purpose of determining a specific pay entitlement
- For example, hours of travel are <u>not</u> creditable
  - if the hours are compensated by basic pay or under other premium pay provisions,
  - if there are compensation caps that limit the payment of premium pay for those hours (e.g., the 25% cap on availability pay and the biweekly premium pay cap)



### **Crediting Time**

 Compensatory time off for travel is credited and used in 15 minute increments



- DOC's procedures for requesting credit:
  - Make request prior to the actual travel or within 10 calendar days of termination of the travel
  - Use any of the following:
    - CD-81 Request for Paid OT or Comp Time
    - webTA Leave and Premium Pay Request
    - Email
    - Memorandum
- Requests may be denied
  - If not filed within the specified time limit

FORM CD-81 (E-71) IF-56 AND 202-561 AUTHORIZATION FOR PAID OVERTIME AND/OR HOLIDAY AUTHORIZATION FOR COMPENSATORY OVERTIME WORK, AND FOR COMPENSATORY in addition to the two indicated,											
NOTE—Personnel in operating units requiring copies in addition to the two indicated, refer to internal procedures, original and one (1) copy. Forward original to Payroll INSTRUCTIONS—Prepare original and one (1) copy. Forward original to Payroll instructions—to Time Clerk responsible for certification of time and attendance											
reports.		MAXIMUM HOURS P PAY PERIOD									
NAMES OR NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES	GRADE (Indicate GS, WS, etc.)	PAID OVER- TIME OR HOLIDAY WORK 7	ESTIMATED COST 8								
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### **Documentation: Crediting Time**

Provide chronological record (in same time zone) of specific travel information including:

- Duration of normal home-to-work commute
- Regular tour of duty
- Date/time/place of departure
- Actual time spent traveling to/from transportation terminal

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- Time spent waiting at the transportation terminal
- Time spent in travel
- Time of arrival at/departure from temporary duty station





### **Using Time**



- SF-71/OPM-71
- webTA Leave and Premium Pay Request
- Email
- Memorandum
- Kept with timekeeping records for 6 years.
- Employees (and their managers) must <u>judiciously</u> manage/plan use of:
  - -annual leave
  - -compensatory time
  - -compensatory time-off for travel
  - -credit hours

-For example, using compensatory time-off for travel to avoid forfeiture and then not using excess annual leave is not an "exigency of business" for restoration purposes







### **Forfeiture**

- Compensatory time-off for travel is forfeited:
  - If not used within 26 pay periods after pay period it is credited;
  - Upon voluntary <u>transfer</u> to another agency;
  - Upon movement to a <u>noncovered</u> <u>position</u> (e.g., SES, or WG)
  - Upon <u>separation</u> from the Federal Government.



- If employee separates or is placed on LWOP for Military Service or on-thejob injury with unused compensatory time off, the 26 pay period waiting time starts over upon return.
- Exigency of service beyond employee's control
- Under no circumstances may an employee receive payment for unused compensatory time-off for travel.







### Limitations

 Compensatory time-off for travel may <u>not</u> be considered in applying the:

- biweekly cap,

- annual premium pay cap, or

- <u>aggregate limitation</u> on pay.

 There is no limitation on the amount of compensatory time-off for travel an employee may earn.





### Not Creditable

- Time spent:
  - In connection with Union activities
  - Traveling during basic (nonovertime) holiday hours
  - At a temporary duty station between arrival and departure
  - Extended waiting time (i.e., not "usual waiting time")
  - In connection with an employee's permanent change of duty station







#### **Final Regulations**

Federal Register Notice, Vol. 72, No. 73, Tuesday, April 17, 2007

OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT

**5 CFR Part 550** 

**Pay Administration (General)** 

**AGENCY:** Office of Personnel Management. **ACTION:** Final rule effective May 17, 2007



#### **Memorandum and Guidance**

http://www.opm.gov/oca/compmemo/2007/2007-02.asp

April 17, 2007

**MEMORANDUM FOR HUMAN RESOURCES DIRECTORS** 

FROM: NANCY H. KICHAK, Associate Director, Strategic Human

**Resources Policy** 

**SUBJECT: Final Regulations on Compensatory Time Off for Travel** 

OPM Fact Sheet Compensatory Time Off for Travel





Human Resources Bulletin #065, FY 07 dated May 14, 2007







For additional information on Compensatory Time for Travel go to:

http://www.wfm.noaa.gov

